

Appln No. 10/807,916
Amdt date May 24, 2006
Reply to Office action of February 27, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and reexamination are hereby requested.

Claims 1 - 19 and 21 are now in the application. Claims 1, 14 and 17 have been amended. Claim 20 has been canceled.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention.

The Applicants have amended Claim 14 as suggested by the Examiner to call for (underlining added for emphasis) ... an opening is formed in the gate electrodes at each region where the cathode electrodes and the gate electrodes intersect; ...

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that Claim 14 particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention.

The Examiner has rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b): Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 9 - 12, and 14 - 19 as being anticipated by Lee et al.; and Claims 1 and 8 as being anticipated by Iijima et al. The Examiner has also rejected Claims 13 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Nakatani. However, the Examiner has found Claim 20 to contain allowable subject matter. Claims 3, 6 and 7 were not addressed by the Examiner.

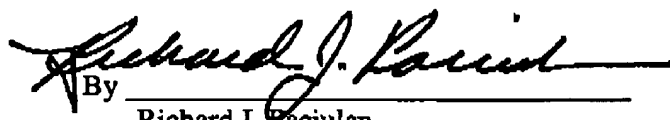
To expedite issuance of the application the Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 17 to include the allowable subject matter of Claim 20. As such, the Applicants submit that Claims 1 and 17 should now be in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 - 16 are dependent on Claim 1. Claims 18, 19 and 21 are dependent on Claim 17. As such, these dependent claims are believed allowable based upon Claims 1 and 17.

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Accordingly, in view of the above amendment and remarks it is submitted that the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and that all the rejections to the claims have been overcome. Reconsideration and reexamination of the above Application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP


By _____
Richard J. Paciulan
Reg. No. 28,248
626/795-9900

RJP/cah

CAH PAS671674.2 *-05/24/06 11:28 AM